

CLAIMS

1. A location reporting method, comprising the steps of:
receiving by a mobile communication terminal, from a
5 computer through a mobile communication network, down data
containing a request for location information;

acquiring by said mobile communication terminal
location information indicating the location of itself; and

transmitting, by said mobile communication terminal,
10 after adding said acquired location information to said
received data, said data to said computer as up data.

2. A location reporting method as described in Claim 1,

wherein said steps performed by said mobile
15 communication terminal further include the step of:
detecting whether said down data contains a character string
requesting location information acquisition time;

wherein,

said acquiring step further includes acquiring the
20 acquisition time of said location information; and

wherein,

said transmitting step further includes adding said
acquired location information acquisition time before
transmission.

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3. A location reporting method as described in Claim 1,
wherein said steps performed by said mobile communication
terminal further include the steps of: detecting whether

said down data contains a character string requesting information on a state of a user or not; and determining the state of the user of said mobile communication terminal from said acquired location information; and

5 wherein,

said transmitting step further includes adding said information on said determined state of the user before transmission.

10 4. A location reporting method as described in Claim 1, wherein said steps performed by said mobile communication terminal further include the steps of: detecting whether said down data contains a character string requesting information on a state of a user or not; and prompting the
15 user of said mobile communication terminal to select his/her own state; and

wherein,

said transmitting step further includes adding the information on said selected state of the user before
20 transmission.

5. A location reporting method as described in any one of Claims 1 to 4, wherein,

said transmitting step includes substituting said
25 acquired information for a predetermined character string contained in said down data and transmits, to said computer, said information as said up data.

6. A location reporting method as described in any one of Claims 1 to 4, wherein,

said down data contains information indicating address to which location information is to be transmitted.

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7. A location reporting method as described in Claim 1, wherein said down data contains a plurality of addresses; wherein,

said steps performed by said mobile communication terminal include the step of: obtaining said plurality of the addresses from said down data; and

wherein,

said transmitting step includes transmitting said data to said plurality of the addresses in succession.

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8. A location reporting method as described in Claim 1, wherein,

after said down data is received, said location information are acquired and transmitted at predetermined intervals.

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9. A location reporting method as described in Claim 8, wherein,

said transmitting step includes transmitting said location information acquired at said predetermined intervals, during the period from the time point to another time point designated by said down data.

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10. A location reporting method as described in Claim 8, wherein,

said transmitting step includes, after accumulating said location information acquired at said predetermined intervals, transmitting said accumulated data at a time point designated by said down data.

11. A location reporting method as described in Claim 1, wherein,

said acquiring step includes generating, by said mobile communication terminal, the location of itself using a global positioning system.

12. A location reporting method as described in Claim 1, wherein,

said acquiring step includes the steps of:

transmitting, by said mobile communication terminal, a request signal requesting a predetermined node of said mobile communication network to generate the location information;

generating, by said predetermined node, the location information of said mobile communication terminal in response to said request signal and transmitting said location information to said terminal; and

receiving, by said mobile communication terminal, the location information transmitted from said node.

13. A location reporting method as described in Claim 12,

further comprising the step of: receiving, by said mobile communication terminal, radio waves transmitted from a plurality of satellites constituting a global positioning system;

5 wherein,

 said step of transmitting request signal includes transmitting information contained in a plurality of said received radio waves, together with said request signal; and

10 wherein,

 said step of generating location information includes generating said location information using the information contained in said plurality of radio waves.

15 14. A location reporting method as described in Claim 1, wherein,

 disclosure information indicating whether said location information is to be disclosed to a computer is stored, in advance, in a predetermined storage means; and

20 wherein,

 said transmitting step includes adding, in the case of receiving down data from said computer to which said location information is to be disclosed, said acquired location information to said received data and transmitting
25 said data to said computer as up data.

15. A location reporting method as described in Claim 14, wherein,

said transmitting step includes transmitting, in the case of receiving down data from a computer to which the location information is not to be disclosed, a notice of rejecting the provision of the location information to said
5 computer.

16. A location reporting method as described in Claim 1,
wherein,

10 said down data contains information designating a method of location measurement;

wherein,

15 said acquiring step is capable of acquiring location information by a plurality of different location measuring methods and includes the step of selecting a location measuring method designated by said down data from among said plurality of said location measuring methods; and

wherein,

20 said transmitting step includes transmitting, carried on said up data, the location information acquired by said selected location measuring method in said acquiring step.

17. A location reporting method as described in Claim 16,
wherein,

25 said down data contains data designating a quality condition of location information; and

wherein,

said step of selecting a location measuring method

includes selecting a location measuring method based on said designated quality condition.

18. A location reporting method as described in Claim 16,
5 wherein,

said location measuring method includes any one of
a method of using a global positioning system and,
a method of identifying a base station covering a range
in which said mobile communication terminal is located.

10 19. A location reporting method as described in Claim 16,
wherein,

said location information contains:

latitude and longitude; or

15 information based on an administrative
classification.

20. A location reporting method as described in Claim 1,
wherein,

20 said computer is an information providing server for
providing said mobile communication terminal with
location-related information relating to the location of
said mobile communication terminal.

25 21. A location reporting method as described in Claim 1,
wherein,

said computer is a terminal connected to a network and
capable of transmitting and receiving data by radio or wire.

22. A location reporting method as described in Claim 1,
wherein,

said mobile communication terminal is a portable
5 telephone for performing phone conversations by radio.

23. A location reporting method for reporting, to a
predetermined computer, location information of a mobile
communication terminal acquired in a mobile communication
10 network serving the mobile communication terminal which is
capable of performing radio communication, comprising the
steps of:

acquiring by said mobile communication terminal
location information indicating the location of itself; and

15 transmitting, by said mobile communication terminal,
after adding said acquired location information to a network
address for identifying a server providing map information
required for displaying location information, said address
to an arbitrary terminal.

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24. A location reporting method as described in Claim 23,
wherein,

said acquiring step includes generating by said mobile
communication terminal the location of itself using a global
25 positioning system (hereinafter referred to as the GPS).

25. A location reporting method as described in Claim 23,
wherein,

said computer is a terminal connected to a network and capable of transmitting and receiving data by radio or wire.

26. A location reporting method as described in Claim 23,
5 wherein,

said mobile communication terminal is a portable telephone for performing phone conversations by radio.

27. A mobile communication terminal, comprising:

10 receiving means for receiving down data containing a request for location information from a computer through a mobile communication network;

acquiring means for acquiring the location information indicating a location of itself; and

15 transmitting means for adding said acquired location information to said received data and transmitting said data as up data to said computer.

28. A mobile communication terminal as described in Claim
20 27, further comprising:

means for detecting whether said down data contains a character string requesting location information acquisition time;

wherein,

25 said acquiring means further acquires said location information acquisition time; and

wherein,

said transmitting means further adds said acquired

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location information acquisition time before transmission.

29. A mobile communication terminal as described in Claim 27, further comprising:

5 means for detecting whether said down data contains a character string requesting information on a state of a user; and

means for determining the state of the user of said mobile communication terminal from said acquired location
10 information; and

wherein,

said transmitting means further adds the information on said determined state of the user before transmission.

15 30. A mobile communication terminal as described in Claim 27, further comprising:

means for detecting whether said down data contains a character string requesting information on a state of a user; and

20 means for prompting the user of said mobile communication terminal to select his/her own state; and

wherein,

said transmitting means further adds information on said selected state of the user before transmission.

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31. A mobile communication terminal as described in any one of Claims 27 to 30, wherein,

said transmitting means substitutes said acquired

information for said detected predetermined character string and transmits said information to said computer as said up data.

- 5 32. A mobile communication terminal as described in Claim 27, further comprising:

means for detecting whether said down data contains a plurality of addresses; and

10 means for obtaining said plurality of the addresses from said down data; and

wherein,

said transmitting means transmits said data to each of said plurality of the addresses in succession.

- 15 33. A mobile communication terminal as described in Claim 27, wherein,

after receiving said down data, said location information are acquired at predetermined intervals before transmission.

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34. A mobile communication terminal as described in Claim 33, wherein,

said transmitting means transmits said location information acquired at said predetermined intervals
25 during the period from a time point to another time point designated by said down data.

35. A mobile communication terminal as described in Claim

33, wherein,

said transmitting means accumulates said location information acquired at said predetermined intervals before transmitting said location information at a time point designated by said down data.

36. A mobile communication terminal as described in Claim 27, wherein,

said acquiring means generates its location using a global positioning system.

37. A mobile communication terminal as described in Claim 27, wherein,

said acquiring means includes:

request transmitting means for transmitting a request signal requesting a predetermined node of said mobile communication network to generate the location information; and

location information receiving means for receiving the location information transmitted, in response to said request signal, from said node.

38. A mobile communication terminal as described in Claim 37, further comprising:

means for receiving radio waves transmitted from a plurality of satellites constituting a global positioning system,

wherein,

said request signal transmitting means transmits information contained in said plurality of received radio waves, together with said request signal.

5 39. A mobile communication terminal as described in Claim 27, wherein,

said acquiring means is capable of acquiring location information by a plurality of different location measuring methods, and said down data contains information
10 designating a location measuring method;

wherein,

said acquiring means includes means for selecting a location measuring method designated by said down data, from among said plurality of the location measuring methods; and

15 wherein,

said transmitting means transmits, carried on said up data, location information acquired by said acquiring means according to said selected location measuring method.

20 40. A mobile communication terminal as described in Claim 39, wherein

said down data contains data designating a quality condition of location information; and

wherein,

25 said means for selecting a location measuring method selects a location measuring method based on said designated quality condition.

41. A mobile communication terminal as described in Claim 39, wherein,

said location measuring method includes either one of a method using a global positioning system, or
5 a method of identifying a base station covering an area in which said mobile communication terminal is located.

42. A mobile communication terminal as described in Claim 39, wherein

10 said location information contains:
latitude and longitude; or
information based on an administrative classification.

15 43. A mobile communication terminal as described in Claim 27, further comprising:

storage means for storing disclosure information indicating whether said computer requesting the location information of the mobile communication terminal is a
20 computer to which said information is to be disclosed,
wherein,

said transmitting means adds, in the case of receiving down data from said computer to which said location information is to be disclosed, said acquired location
25 information to said received data before transmitting to said computer as up data.

44. A mobile communication terminal as described in Claim

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